

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 remain pending in this application.

Election of Species Requirement

The Examiner requires applicant to elect from one of the allegedly patentably distinct species as follows:

Species I, Figures 1-12

Species II, Figures 13-14

Species III, Figure 15

Species IV, Figures 16-19

Applicant elects with traverse the species of Figures 16-19. Claims 1-23 are believed to read on the elected species.

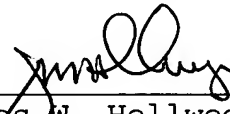
Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the ground that the alleged species of Figures 1-15 are merely components of the claimed device, not separate species which require an election to be made.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. James W. Hellwege (Reg. No. 28,808) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  _____
James W. Hellwege, #28,808

JWH/msh
3918-0159P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000